

Seventy Sabbatical Years And the Babylonian Exile

Looking back to the first oppression of *Cushan-rishathaim*, (in 2569), and beginning at that point, is column H1 tabulating the years of Israel's sin (390), and Judah's sin (40). Each time a sabbatical or Jubilee year lands in these years, it is counted. 2569 is a sabbatical year: 7/21, and so is 2576: 7/28. When Israel repents, and a Judge delivers them, the sin years are *suspended*, e.g. H1-2582. The 390 years of sin and 40 years of sin add up to 430 years. $430 \div 49 = 8.77$, and $430 \div 7 = 61.4$. This indicates that 430 years should contain around 9 Jubilees and 61 sabbatical years, or 70 sacred years.

Broken Sabbath Years

Sin Period:	No. Bkn	Map Ref.	cumulative
Cushan	+ 2	F1-2569	1 - 2
Eglon	+ 3	F1-2618	3 - 5
Jabin	+ 3	F1-2716	6 - 8
Midian	+ 1	F1-2779	9
Abimelech	+ 0		
Ammon	+ 3	F1-2870	10 - 12
Philistines I	+ 7	F1-2919	13 - 19
Philistines II	+ 3	F1-3003	20 - 22
Israel	+ 42	G1-3164	23 - 64
Manasseh	+ 3	G1-3451	65 - 67
Amon	+ 1	G1-3500	68
Jehoiakim	+ 2	G1-3535	69 - 70
Total	70		

If the reader will read down through this in the chart and note that the years of sin are only added when the people are being punished by servitude or ruled by a wicked king, then he will note that the total number of sacred years is exactly 70. The 70th year is in G1-3542. These 70 sacred years are God's reason for the 70-year exile in Babylon.¹⁴⁹ The reader should also notice that 134 of the 390 years are counted during the time of the Judges, and that these 134 years are *exactly* the years that are not counted in the -480- years of 1st Kings 6:1.

The seventy broken sabbatical years stretch from Israel's entry into the land, in 1592 B.C., to Judah's exile from the land in 597 B.C. The possibility of locating all these sacred years validates the chronology. Notice the three sacred years 20, 21, 22, beginning in the 2nd Philistine Servitude in 2999? These are in the 20-years following the Philistine victory over Eli and his sons, when the ark was captured (1st

Samuel 7:2). The 23rd broken sacred year falls in the 7th year of Rehoboam (3164).

Notice, however that the year 135 of the 390 is not counted until the 4th year of Rehoboam. This is because the Scripture says, "for three years they walked in the way of David and Solomon" (2nd Chronicles 11:17). Sacred years 26 and 27 are a sabbatical 7/49 and Jubilee 1/50 respectively in the 6th and 7th years of Baasha, King of Israel. All sacred years are sabbatical, but not all sacred years are *sevens*. Only the seventh year is a *seven*. The Jubilee is a sacred year, but it is not a *seven*. When God speaks of "her Sabbaths", he means all sacred years. When He speaks of *Seventy Sevens* (Daniel 9:24), he means only the seventh years.

Although the righteous King Asa ruled in Judah, the sacred years are counted as unobserved if the kingdom of Israel does not observe them. For the kingdom was taken from Solomon's son and given to Jeroboam, who received ten tribes, while Solomon only received one tribe. All the kings of Israel were wicked from Jeroboam to Hoshea.

The Babylonian Exile

Four Periods of Seventy Years	Ref.
For Babylon	604-539 66 1/2 Jer. 25:11
	2032-2035 3 1/2 Dan. 7:25
The Exile	597-528 70 Jer. 29:10
The Indignation	588-519 70 Zech. 1:12
The Fasting	587-518 70 Zech. 7:5

The Exile begins with the completion of the 70th broken sacred year, and the 40th year of Judah's sin. This is in the year of the world 3543, 598/97 B.C. There were three defeats of Judah, and three deportations. The first deportation was of Daniel and his companions in the 3rd year of Jehoiakim (3536). The second deportation was the most important: King Jehoiachin was taken to Babylon. The third was at the destruction of the Temple in 587 B.C. The book of Ezekiel chronicles the years of the exile as the "exile of king Jehoiachin," which corresponds to the middle deportation. Likewise, Jeremiah 29:10 assigns the 70-year exile to the deportees from 597 B.C.¹⁵⁰

The solution to the 70-years requires recognizing several 70-year periods. The first 70-year period is the Babylonian Hegemony over Israel. This period began in 605 B.C. and continued until 539 B.C., when it was suspended after 66 1/2¹⁵¹ years. Babylon will rule the remaining 3 1/2 years (42 months) when the Anti-Messiah rules the world at the end of days. This period is charted beginning in 3536 and suspends

¹⁵⁰ Jeremiah's letter is addressed to the deportees from 597.

¹⁵¹ Col. G2-3536 counts standard *Tishri* years, but the Babylonian Hegemony began in the spring of 605 B.C., 1/2 year before, after the battle of Carchemish. The four *Tishri* years in the end of days are only actually 3 1/2 years or 42 months. Thus, the whole Babylonian Hegemony will be exactly 70 years.

¹⁴⁹ 2nd Chronicles 36:21; Leviticus 26:34, 43.